# Appendix G Government Notices, Proclamations, and Advisories

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#### G.1. State of California



### PROCLAMATION

10/21/2007

# Governor Schwarzenegger Proclaims State of Emergency in Southern California Counties Due to Wildfires

**PROCLAMATION** 

by the

Governor of the State of California

WHEREAS on October 21, 2007, there are more than eleven major wildfires burning in southern California; and

WHEREAS the wildfires are being driven by dry conditions and high winds, and these conditions are expected to continue for several days; and

WHEREAS more than 20,000 acres have already burned, and more areas are threatened; and

WHEREAS the wildfires have already caused the loss of human life and serious injuries; and

WHEREAS homes, businesses and other structures have burned; and

WHEREAS residents have been evacuated in many communities and several highways and local roads have been closed; and

WHEREAS the wildfires have disrupted a major electrical transmission line and caused power outages; and

WHEREAS on October 21, 2007, my Office of Emergency Services requested federal Fire Management Assistance Grants for many of the fires to ensure that adequate financial resources are available to rapidly attack the fires and reimburse critical emergency response costs; and

WHEREAS some counties have already issued local proclamations of emergency regarding the wildfires, requesting that I issue a state proclamation of emergency, and more local proclamations of emergency are anticipated; and

WHEREAS these wildfires, by reason of their magnitude, are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, I find that, because of the wildfires, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and

Ventura.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code, HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist within the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of my Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the State Emergency Plan, and that OES provide local government assistance under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 21st Day of October 2007.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR

# PRESS RELEASE

10/21/2007 GAAS:832:07 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Governor Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Wildfires in Southern California

Governor Schwarzenegger today issued the following statement in response to wildfires in Southern California, including the Canyon Fire that has burned more than 800 acres in Los Angeles County near Malibu Canyon. The Canyon Fire is being driven by strong winds and so far has burned 4 homes, a church and 3 buildings. It has also caused power outages in areas along the coast near Malibu. Pepperdine University and the community of Piuma Canyon have been evacuated.

"Currently there are a number of fires in Southern California, being driven by strong Santa Ana winds, which have destroyed several homes. In Los Angeles County, the Canyon Fire has burned several hundred acres so far and poses a serious threat to nearby communities. My administration is working closely with federal and local officials; we will continue to mobilize the necessary resources to fight all of these fires," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "I am continuously receiving briefings on the situation and have committed to sending additional personnel and equipment, if needed, as well as setting up evacuation centers to help those who have been displaced from their homes. I commend those individuals who have acted quickly to evacuate from the dangerous areas, for the safety of themselves and their families."

To fight the Canyon Fire, Cal Fire strike team engines and aircraft have been deployed. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services has also sent fire engines to assist local government. The federal government and County and City of Los Angeles are also providing resources. At least 400 state, local and federal fire engines are on the scene or being dispatched. Ten Cal Fire S2-T air tankers are engaged or ready to be deployed. So far, more than 1150 personnel have been assigned to respond to the situation.

The State is also actively monitoring and sending resources to the Ranch Fire and Session Fires in Los Angeles County as well as the Sedgewick Fire in Santa Barbara County and the El Cajon Fire in San Diego.



## PRESS RELEASE

10/22/2007 GAAS:837:07 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Governor Schwarzenegger Directs Coordinated State Efforts to Fight Southern California Fires

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has coordinated state efforts with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the California National Guard (CNG) to make all state resources available to better fight the fires in Southern California.

"My administration is working closely with federal and local officials and will continue to assess what is needed to fight the fires in Southern California. Make no mistake about it: we will mobilize every resource necessary to protect lives and property affected by this disaster," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

"Through working with these state agencies, we have been able to provide more personnel and equipment to fight the fires and to activate 21 local operations centers in the state. I continue to be briefed by state officials and am confident that all resources are being utilized at all levels of government to fight these fires.

"I commend those individuals who have acted quickly to evacuate from dangerous areas and urge everyone to continue to follow the directions and evacuation orders issued by emergency personnel."

Governor Schwarzenegger has directed the following through OES, CAL FIRE and CNG to fight the devastating fires in Southern California:

CAL FIRE has deployed the following fire and rescue resources and activated the following personnel:

- 1,790 CAL FIRE personnel
- 320 individuals not assigned to equipment
- 316 fire engines
- 47 crews
- 19 air tankers
- 15 bulldozers
- 8 helicopters
- · 2 mobile communications centers
- 1 mobile kitchen unit
- Approximately 100 personnel at the 2 regional CAL FIRE centers located in Riverside and Redding.
- 10 personnel working at the State Operations Center in Mather.
- And multiple personnel at each of the 21 local operations centers statewide.

OES has deployed the following fire and rescue resources and activated the following personnel:

- 329 local government engines
- · 102 fire engines
- 24 local water tenders
- 11 OES Chief Officers
- 7 National Guard helicopters
- · 2 support/communication equipment units
- · 1 OES fire mechanic
- 100 personnel working at the State Operations Center and 15 personnel working in the Joint Information Center. Both facilities are located in Mather, California.
- 30 personnel working at the Regional Operations Center, located at CNG's Joint Forces facility in Los Alamitos, California.

Governor Schwarzenegger earlier today directed CNG to make 1500 guardsmen available to support the firefighting efforts. The Governor also requested four CNG helicopters through OES. The four aircraft are currently on stand-by at Mather Air Field (1 Firehawk) and Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base (3 UH-60 Blackhawks). The UH-60 Blackhawk and the Firehawk are capable of fire suppression missions as well as personnel transport in and out of dangerous and hard to reach locations.

For media information on the coordinated state effort to contain the Southern California wildfires please contact the State Joint Information Center at 916-845-8441 which is open 24 hours.

Governor Schwarzenegger last night <u>proclaimed</u> a State of Emergency in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura due to more than eleven major wildfires to make more resources available to fight the fires.



# PRESS RELEASE

10/23/2007 GAAS:846:07 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Gov. Schwarzenegger Requests President to Declare Major Disaster for California Due to Southern California Wildfires

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today sent the following letter to President Bush requesting declaration of a major disaster for the State of California as a result of the major wildfires:

October 23, 2007

The President The White House Washington, DC 20500

Through: Ms. Nancy Ward

Regional Director

Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA Region IX 1111 Broadway Street

**Suite 1200** 

Oakland, California 94607

Dear Mr. President,

Yesterday, I requested a presidential declaration of emergency as a result of the wildfires in Southern California. You swiftly issued that declaration, releasing federal military air support, ground crews and firefighting equipment. California has now lost more than 751 homes to fires, and I am therefore requesting the next level of emergency assistance, that you issue a major disaster declaration for the region. The combination of very high winds, lack of precipitation and dry fuels has exacerbated these major wildfires, which continue to burn. Critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges, public buildings and utilities, has been damaged. In addition, as of October 23, 2007, more than 1,100 structures have been destroyed or have

suffered major damage in the seven affected counties. As a preliminary estimate of total public assistance needs, we believe that the costs will substantially exceed \$75 million.

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.36, I request that you declare a major disaster for the State of California as a result of the major wildfires that struck California beginning on or about October 21, 2007, and that continue to pose a threat to people and property. The affected counties are Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura.

In response to the situation, I have taken appropriate action under State law and directed the execution of the State Emergency Plan on October 21, 2007, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 5170. By gubernatorial proclamation dated October 21, 2007, I have declared a state of emergency in these seven counties due to the damages caused by these wildfires.

# **Federal Emergency Declaration:**

A federal emergency declaration (FEMA-3279-EM) was received on October 23, 2007. This assistance is for the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura. Additional designations may be made at a later date after further evaluation.

# FEMA Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAGs):

On October 21, 2007, an FMAG was authorized for the Canyon Fire in Los Angeles County. On October 22, 2007, FMAGs were authorized for the Santiago Fire in Orange County, the Ranch Fire in Los Angeles and Ventura counties, the Witch Fire in San Diego County, the Buckweed Fire in Los Angeles County, the Harris Fire in San Diego County, the Grass Valley Fire in San Bernardino County and the Rice Fire in San Diego County. An FMAG was requested for the Rosa Fire in Riverside County.

I have determined that this disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local governments and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary. Pursuant to 44 CFR 206.36(d), I am requesting expedited assistance and a preliminary damage assessment as soon as conditions permit this assessment to be performed safely.

I am specifically requesting Individual Assistance (including the Individual and Households Program, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling and Legal Services); Public Assistance; and Small Business Administration Disaster Loans. I am also requesting, as appropriate, assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Highway Administration and the Natural Resources Conservation Services; implementation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Emergency Loan Program; and any other Stafford Act programs as

appropriate for the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura. I am also requesting that Hazard Mitigation Grant funding be made available on a statewide basis.

I certify that for this major disaster, the State and local governments will assume the applicable non-federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

In addition, I anticipate the need for the removal of debris, which poses an immediate threat to public health and safety. Pursuant to sections 502 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 5192 and 5173, the State agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

I have designated Henry R. Renteria, Director of my Office of Emergency Services, as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He will work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in damage assessments and may provide further information or justification on my behalf.

In closing, I commend the efforts of the federal government in rapidly acting on our requests for fire management assistance grants, and I look forward to working with you to ensure California's recovery from these devastating wildfire events.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger



# PRESS RELEASE

10/24/2007 GAAS:852:07 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Governor Schwarzenegger Responds to President's Major Disaster Declaration for California Due to Southern California Wildfires

Gov. Schwarzenegger today issued the following statement regarding President George W. Bush's Major Disaster Declaration for California due to the Southern California wildfires:

"This declaration means millions of dollars in much needed assistance to help our state rebuild and recover. The federal government did the right thing," said Gov. Schwarzenegger. "These wildfires have been extremely devastating to our state. Thousands of Californians have been evacuated from their homes and many have lost them. Maria and I extend our thoughts and prayers to the victims of these fires and our deepest gratitude to the brave firefighters who are continuing to fight them."

The Governor sent a letter to the President requesting a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of California as a result of the major wildfires. The President announced a Major Disaster Declaration this morning. This is now the President's second declaration, the first was a declaration of a State of Emergency.

The Major Disaster Declaration will give assistance to individuals, families and businesses such as low interest loans from the Small Business Administration, grants for temporary housing, home repairs and disaster unemployment assistance.

The declaration also includes funding for restoring damaged or replacing destroyed governmental infrastructure, such as roads, utilities and essential public buildings. It also includes reimbursement for a significant amount of emergency response costs and debris removal.

#### G.2. California Air Districts

#### G.2.1 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



Wildfires, Strong Winds Continue to Create Unhealthful Air Quality Across the Southland

Oct. 23, 2007

Schools Urged to Curtail Outdoor Activities in Areas Affected by Smoke

Smoke and ash from numerous wildfires along with dust raised by strong winds continue to create unhealthful air quality throughout much of the Southland again today.

Air quality officials are advising all residents, and particularly school officials, to curtail outdoor activities if they can see or smell smoke or see falling ash.

Concentrations of fine particulate matter known as PM10 are at unhealthy levels in numerous areas directly impacted by smoke as well as high-wind areas in San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, and Los Angeles counties.

In areas with unhealthy air quality, everyone should discontinue prolonged, vigorous outdoor exercise lasting longer than one hour. Examples of the kinds of outdoor activities that should be avoided are calisthenics, basketball, running, soccer, football, tennis, swimming laps, and water polo. Susceptible persons, such as those with heart or lung disease, should avoid outdoor activity entirely.

The strong Santa Ana condition that is bringing gusty winds from the northeast through and below the Southland's passes and canyons is expected to continue through today, decreasing on Wednesday.

For more tips on avoiding health impacts from the smoke, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm">http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm</a> on AQMD's website.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.



# Wildfires Continue to Create Unhealthful Air Quality Across the Southland

Oct. 24, 2007

#### Schools Urged to Curtail Outdoor Activities in Areas Affected by Smoke

Although strong Santa Ana winds are expected to subside today, widespread wildfires and smoke from them will continue to create unhealthful air quality conditions across the Southland today.

As a result, air quality officials again urge everyone to take precautions to protect themselves from the adverse health effects of wildfire smoke. Specifically they recommend that:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

Air quality officials especially urge schools, day care centers and sports coaches to not allow children to exercise - whether outdoors or inside - during unhealthful air quality conditions.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. Air quality studies during wildfires have shown that PM10 and PM2.5 can reach significant concentrations inside homes in smoke-impacted areas.

As the strong Santa Ana condition subsides, smoke that has been blown over the ocean could be brought back by sea breezes and recirculated through the region during the next several days, air quality officials said.

For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm">http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm</a> on AQMD's website.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.



## Wildfires Continue to Create Unhealthful Air Quality in Many Areas Across the Southland

Oct. 25, 2007

In spite of diminished winds and firefighters' progress in battling Southern California's wildfires, air quality will remain unhealthful today in areas directly impacted by smoke.

In other areas not directly impacted by smoke, air pollution officials predict that air quality will be unhealthy for sensitive individuals. Air quality is expected to improve on Friday except in areas near active fires.

Areas forecast to have unhealthful air quality today are the central San Bernardino Mountains, including Lake Arrowhead; portions of the San Bernardino Valley from Fontana to Yucaipa; the Saddleback Valley area in Orange County and the Santa Clarita Valley.

In addition to areas forecast to have unhealthful air quality, the current sea breeze condition as well as local wind conditions could create unhealthful air quality conditions in localized areas again today.

In areas where unhealthful air quality is forecast, as well as anywhere that smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

Air quality officials especially urge schools, day care centers and sports coaches to not allow children to exercise - whether outdoors or inside - during unhealthful air quality conditions.

All other areas of the Los Angeles Basin are forecast to have air quality that is unhealthy for sensitive groups. At such levels, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm on AQMD's website.



## Wildfires Continue to Create Unhealthful Air Quality in Areas Across the Southland

Oct. 26, 2007

As wildfires continue to burn in the Southland, air quality will remain unhealthful today in areas directly impacted by smoke.

In other areas not directly impacted by smoke, air pollution officials predict that air quality will be unhealthy for sensitive individuals, with air quality in coastal and valley areas of Los Angeles County improving to moderate levels.

Areas forecast to have unhealthful air quality today are the central San Bernardino Mountains, including Lake Arrowhead; portions of the San Bernardino Valley from Fontana to Yucaipa; portions of Riverside County from Corona to Temecula Valley and the Saddleback Valley area in Orange County.

In areas where unhealthful air quality is forecast, as well as anywhere that smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

Air quality officials especially urge schools, day care centers and sports coaches to not allow children to exercise - whether outdoors or inside - during unhealthful air quality conditions.

At levels unhealthy for sensitive groups, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm">http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm</a> on AQMD's website.

In addition, the California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association (CAPCOA) has more information available on the topic "How to Protect Your Family from the Health Effects of Smoke." For local air quality information, AIRNow, a cross-agency US Government website which focuses on ozone and particulate pollution, has both current Air Quality Indices (AQI) and forecasts available through their website at: http://www.airnow.gov.



# Wildfires Continue to Create Unhealthful Air Quality in Areas Across the Southland

Oct. 27, 2007

As wildfires continue to burn in the Southland, air quality will remain unhealthful today and tomorrow in areas directly impacted by smoke.

Areas forecast to have unhealthful air quality today are the central San Bernardino Mountains, including Lake Arrowhead, and the Saddleback Valley area in Orange County.

In other areas not directly impacted by smoke in San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange counties, air quality today and tomorrow is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive individuals. Air quality in coastal and valley areas of Los Angeles County is predicted to be in the moderate range.

In areas where unhealthful air quality is forecast, as well as anywhere that smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

Air quality officials especially urge schools, day care centers and sports coaches to not allow children to exercise - whether outdoors or inside - during unhealthful air quality conditions.

When air quality is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive groups, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity. When air quality is in the moderate range, unusually sensitive individuals should consider reducing vigorous outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm">http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm</a> on AQMD's website.



# Air Quality Improves in Most Areas But Remains Unhealthful Near Remaining Wildfires

Oct. 29, 2007

Air quality is forecast to be in the moderate range in most areas of the Southland today as a result of increasing control of remaining wildfires and improved atmospheric dispersion of smoke.

However, areas directly impacted by smoke from active fires, including the Saddleback Valley in Orange County and the central San Bernardino Mountains are forecast to have unhealthy air quality. Areas downwind of these fires in Orange and San Bernardino counties may have air quality that is unhealthy for sensitive individuals.

In areas where **unhealthful** air quality is forecast, as well as anywhere that smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

Air quality officials especially urge schools, day care centers and sports coaches to not allow children to exercise - whether outdoors or inside - during unhealthful air quality conditions.

When air quality is forecast to be **unhealthy for sensitive groups**, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity. When air quality is in the **moderate** range, unusually sensitive individuals should consider reducing vigorous outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm on AQMD's website.



## Air Quality Improving in Most Areas But Remains Unhealthful Near Remaining Wildfires

Oct. 30, 2007

Air quality is forecast to be in the moderate range in most areas of the Southland today as a result of increasing control of remaining wildfires and improved atmospheric dispersion of smoke.

However, areas directly impacted by smoke from active fires, including the Saddleback Valley in Orange County, the Corona/Norco area and the central San Bernardino Mountains are forecast to have air quality that is unhealthy for sensitive individuals. Areas downwind of these fires in Orange and San Bernardino counties may also have air quality that is unhealthy for sensitive individuals.

In areas where smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

When air quality is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive groups, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity. When air quality is in the moderate range, unusually sensitive individuals should consider reducing vigorous outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm on AQMD's website.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.



# Air Quality Improves Across Southland But Remains Unhealthful Near Remaining Wildfires

Oct. 31, 2007

Air quality is forecast to be in the moderate range throughout the Southland today except in the Saddleback Valley area in Orange County, the Corona/Norco area, and the central San Bernardino Mountains where air quality is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive individuals due to the remaining wildfires.

In areas where smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

When air quality is forecast to be **unhealthy for sensitive groups**, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity. When air quality is in the **moderate** range, unusually sensitive individuals should consider reducing vigorous outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm on AQMD's website.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.



#### Air Quality Remains Unhealthful Near Remaining Wildfire

Nov. 1, 2007

Air quality is forecast to be in the moderate range throughout the Southland today except in the Saddleback Valley area in Orange County and the Corona/Norco area where air quality is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive individuals due to the remaining wildfire.

In areas where smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

When air quality is forecast to be **unhealthy for sensitive groups**, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity. When air quality is in the **moderate** range, unusually sensitive individuals should consider reducing vigorous outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm on AQMD's website.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.



#### Air Quality Remains Unhealthful Near Remaining Wildfire

Nov. 2, 2007

Air quality is forecast to be in the moderate range throughout the Southland today and through the weekend except in the Saddleback Valley area in Orange County where air quality is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive individuals due to the remaining wildfire.

In areas where smoke is seen or smelled or ash is falling:

- everyone should avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases including asthma, as well as the elderly and children should remain indoors;
- keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

When air quality is forecast to be unhealthy for sensitive groups, sensitive or susceptible individuals, such as those with heart or lung disease, should minimize outdoor activity. When air quality is in the moderate range, unusually sensitive individuals should consider reducing vigorous outdoor activity.

Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5. For a printable fact sheet containing tips to avoid health impacts from the smoke, see <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm">http://www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/factsheets.htm</a> on AQMD's website.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.



### Air Quality Advisory

Nov. 8, 2007

Now that the Southern California wildfires are nearly 100 percent contained, air quality has returned to normal levels throughout most of the Southland. Individuals in areas impacted by the Saddleback Valley fire in Orange County that continue to smell smoke or see ash falling are urged to exercise caution and avoid unnecessary outdoor activities in these areas.

For more information on how to avoid health impacts from smoke, see <u>News</u> on AQMD's website.





#### AQMD to Enhance Wildfire Smoke Monitoring Network

Dec. 7, 2007

#### School districts recognized for keeping students safe from smoke during wildfires

#### All schools urged to join Air Quality Flag Program

In the wake of this fall's destructive firestorms, the Southland's clean air agency today announced a major expansion of its wildfire smoke monitoring network and challenged all schools to fly special flags alerting students to air quality conditions.

"We know that many residents suffer severe respiratory illness from breathing smoke and other pollutants during wildfires," said William Burke, Ed.D., Governing Board Chairman of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

"This action will allow us to provide more air quality information during wildfires so that residents can take appropriate steps to protect their family's health."

"We are recognizing school districts today that took exemplary actions to protect students from wildfire smoke this fall. In the future, all schools can be part of the solution by participating year-round in AQMD's Air Quality Flag Program," he added.

AQMD today approved \$225,000 to enhance its air monitoring network across the region by increasing the number of instruments capable of measuring and instantaneously reporting levels of fine particulate (PM2.5), one of the chief pollutants in wildfire smoke. To supplement AQMD's existing network of 14 such instruments, today's action will add four monitors at permanent sites and four mobile monitors that can be deployed during wildfires to smoke-impacted areas.

The program also will enhance wildfire air quality information available on AQMD's website, <a href="www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, and through its toll-free hotline, 1-800-CUT-SMOG (1-800-288-7664).

AQMD today also recognized 27 school districts in its four-county jurisdiction for their swift actions to keep students safe from unhealthful air. (See following list of districts recognized.) During the wildfires, those school districts either closed schools for one or more days, or flew air quality flags and cancelled outdoor activities.

During today's Board meeting, some two dozen 4th- and 5th-grade students from Cecilia L. Solorio Elementary School in Fontana received air quality flags as their school pledged to be the latest to join AQMD's Air Quality Flag Program.

"During the wildfires, we cancelled outdoor activities due to unhealthy air quality," said Carol Bidwell-Pilgren, Ed.D., principal of Solorio Elementary. "We are looking forward to flying air quality flags to alert our students and community when air quality conditions are unhealthy."

Under the flag program, schools fly a color-coded flag each school day corresponding to the five color-coded air quality levels in the national Air Quality Index. The index recommends specific health advice for each air quality level. A full description of the Air

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Quality Flag Program is on AQMD's website at http://www.aqmd.gov/ej/pdf /flagbrochure.pdf.

#### School districts recognized today are:

Anaheim City School District Bonita Unified School District Burbank Unified School District Capistrano Unified School District Castaic Union School District Central School District Chamlian Armenian School Etiwanda School District Glendora Unified School District Irvine Unified School District

Jurupa Unified School District Long Beach Unified School District

Los Angeles Unified School District

Moreno Valley Unified School District

Newhall School District

Orange Unified School District

Redlands Unified School District

Rim of the World Unified School District

Riverside Unified School District

Saddleback Valley Unified School District

San Bernardino City Unified School District

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

Saugus Union School District

Sulphur Springs School District

Upland Unified School District

William S. Hart Union School District

Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District

AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

#### G.2.2 SAN LUIS OBISPO AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



#### \*\*\* HEALTH ADVISORY \*\*\*

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Larry Allen, 781-5912

**SLO County Air Pollution Control District** 

Dr. Greg Thomas, 781-5500

**SLO County Public Health Department** 

#### SMOKE AND DUST HEALTH ADVISORY FOR SLO COUNTY

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, October 22, 2007 – The San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) reminds residents to take precautions regarding local smoke impacts from fires in Southern California and airborne dust and ash. The dust and ash, blown by high velocity east and south winds into San Luis Obispo County, is from our open land areas and from the Zaca Fire site. Smoke resulting from the fires, as well as dust and ash, may be intermittently present in San Luis Obispo County's air for days to come.

Larry Allen, San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control Officer, cautions all residents, especially individuals with sensitive respiratory systems, to use common sense and be cautious when planning or conducting outdoor activities. When smoke is obvious in the air, county health officials recommend that people avoid strenuous outdoor activity and remain indoors as much as possible. Levels of particulates in the smoke may be high enough to affect even healthy adults and children. If a cough, shortness of breath, wheezing, exhaustion, light-headedness or chest pain occurs, outdoor activity should be stopped and the affected person should seek medical attention. When the air appears to be clear, normal activity may resume unless physical symptoms indicate that air pollution is still at a level that can cause a negative impact on your health. The APCD will continue to closely monitor the air quality in San Luis Obispo County and notify residents of any change in status.

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Aeron Arlin Genet, 781-5912

**SLO County Air Pollution Control District** 

# LOCAL AIR QUALITY HAS IMPROVED – AIR QUALITY HEALTH ADVISORY LIFTED FOR SLO COUNTY

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, October 25, 2007 – The San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Air Pollution Control District has lifted the Air Quality Health Advisory for SLO County communities. Even though local air quality has improved, with the fires continuing in southern California, residents are advised to monitor conditions and minimize time outdoors and avoid prolonged or heavy exertion if experiencing smoke or ash in the area. These precautions are especially important for people with respiratory and heart conditions.

The air quality conditions have improved from levels earlier in this week, although there is still smoke in the area from the fires burning in southern California and continued re-suspension of ash and soot left over from last weekend's high wind event. Depending on future wind conditions, SLO County communities may still experience high particulate matter (PM) levels that result from distant fire and ash sources.

Air Pollution Control officials still advise everyone to be cautious and use common sense to protect their family's health, especially those with heart or lung disease (including asthma), and take caution when planning or conducting outdoor activities. When you can see or smell the smoke in your surroundings, officials recommend you avoid strenuous outdoor activity and remain indoors as much as possible. Levels of particulates in the smoke may be high enough to affect even healthy adults and children. If a cough, shortness of breath, wheezing, exhaustion, light-headedness or chest pain occurs, outdoor activity should be stopped and the affected person should seek medical attention. The APCD will continue to closely monitor the air quality in San Luis Obispo County and notify residents of any change in status.

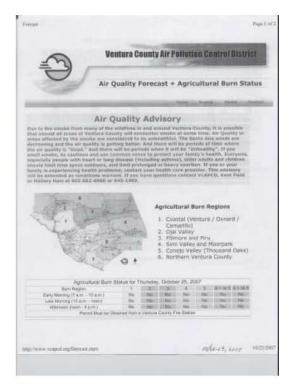
#### G.2.3. VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

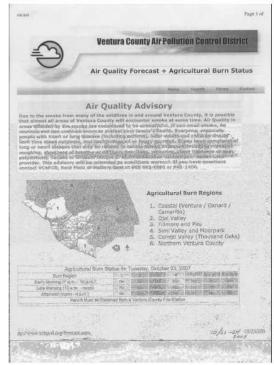
Air quality advisories issued by the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District can be found in the documentation submitted by Ventura County to the California Air Resources Board on November 28, 2008 and included in Appendix I of this document.

# Notice of Intent to Declare Southern California Fires an Exception Event

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO DECLARE THE OCTOBER 2007 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRES AN EXCEPTIONAL EVENT

Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 50.14, the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District is notifying the public that the Environmental Protection Agency has been advised of our intention to flag those data which we have determined were directly influenced by the Southern California fires. The period of the proposed data flagging is October 21, 2007 through October 29, 2007. Such data will be designated as "exceptional event" data. Data to be flagged will include ozone, PM10 and PM2.5 values. By virtue of being flagged, the data will still be available for scientific or public review, but will not be used for purposes of air quality standard attainment designation. A file of supporting documentation will be prepared by the District and/or California Air Resources Board personnel, forwarded to EPA, and made available to public for review and comment at a later date. Final acceptance or rejection of exceptional event designation will be determined by EPA. Questions related to this issue may be directed by Keith Duval, Senior Program Manager, at (805) 645-1410 or keith@vcapcd.org.





#### G.2.4. SANTA BARBARA AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2007

#### CONTACT:

Tom Murphy, 805.403.1096 Bobbie Bratz, 805.455.6403

See links to up to date info on this page.

### Air Quality Advisory Due to Blowing Ash

Santa Barbara, CA-The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) today issued an air quality advisory for southern Santa Barbara County. Ash from the summer's Zaca Fire is becoming airborne with high winds in the area.

High winds forecast through this evening will continue to bring fine ash particles into the south coast. Particulate levels are higher than normal and will vary with prevailing wind direction.

Persons sensitive to particulates should be cautious and use "common sense" to protect your family's health. Everyone, especially people with heart or lung disease (including asthma), older adults and children should limit time spent outdoors, and limit prolonged or heavy exertion. If you have symptoms of lung or heart disease that may be related to excess particle exposure, including repeated coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea or unusual fatigue or lightheadedness, contact your health care provider.

Said Air Pollution Control Officer Terry Dressler, "We encourage everyone to pay particular attention to any health problems that they may be experiencing and to contact their physician if they are feeling ill."





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2007

#### **Public Health Contacts:**

Michele Mickiewicz, Public Information Officer, 805-451-3497 (cell) Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Public Health Department Director, County Health Officer, 805-681-5105

#### **APCD Contacts:**

Bobbie Bratz, Public Information Officer, 805-455-6403 (cell)

# Air Quality Health Advisory Continues

The health advisory issued yesterday by Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) remains in effect. Air quality is unhealthful for all residents due to high winds that are blowing ash that is left over from the Zaca Fire as well as smoke from the Sedgwick Fire that is currently burning north east of Figueroa Mountain. There is currently an evacuation warning in place for the Woodstock community due to the Sedgwick Fire. There is also the possibility of smoke that will blow into Santa Barbara County from a fire burning near Piru in Ventura County.

Residents living in areas impacted by these fires and wind conditions are advised by County health and air quality officials to remain indoors, minimize time spent outdoors and limit prolonged or heavy exertion while outdoors. In addition, residents are advised to keep windows and doors closed to minimize air flow indoors. These precautions are recommended for all residents and especially for people with respiratory and heart conditions.

Dr. Elliot Schulman, County Health Officer, said, "As always when air quality is considered unhealthful, people with asthma or other respiratory diseases or heart conditions should monitor their health conditions and consult with their health care providers if their symptoms worsen."



Note: see links to more current news on this page.

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2007

#### **Public Health Contacts:**

Michele Mickiewicz, Public Information Officer, 805-451-3497 (cell)

Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Public Health Department Director, County Health Officer, 805-681-5105

#### **APCD Contacts:**

Bobbie Bratz, Public Information Officer, 805-455-6403(cell) Tom Murphy, APCD Division Manager, 805-403-1096

### Precautionary Health Advisory for Smoke and Ash

Santa Barbara, CA — The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) have issued a precautionary advisory for Santa Barbara County communities. Residents in areas of the county that can smell smoke from the Sedgwick Fire or other fires burning in southern California are advised to take precautions by minimizing time outdoors and avoiding prolonged or heavy exertion. These precautions are especially important for people with respiratory and heart conditions.

The air quality conditions over the weekend were caused by high winds that were blowing ash left over from the Zaca Fire as well as smoke from the Sedgwick Fire that is burning north east of Figueroa Mountain.

If you smell smoke, be cautious and use common sense to protect your family's health. Everyone, especially people with heart or lung disease (including asthma), older adults and children should limit time spent outdoors, and limit prolonged or heavy exertion. If you have symptoms of lung or heart disease that may be related to excess smoke exposure, including repeated coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea or unusual fatigue or lightneadedness, contact your health care provider. Residents living in areas impacted by fires and high winds are advised to monitor conditions and avoid outdoor activity when the smell of smoke is present. If wind activity increases, there is also the possibility that the ash from fires will again become airborne causing a decrease in air quality.

Dr. Elliot Schulman, County Health Officer, said, "With these fire and wind conditions, it's especially important for people with asthma or other respiratory diseases or heart conditions to monitor their health and consult with their health care providers if their symptoms worsen."



Note: The Air Quality Advisory is no longer in effect. See links to up to date info on this page.

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2007

#### **Public Health Contacts:**

Michele Mickiewicz, Public Information Officer, 805-451-3497 (cell)

Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Public Health Department Director, County Health Officer, 805-681-5105

#### APCD Contacts:

Bobbie Bratz, Public Information Officer, 805-455-6403(cell) Tom Murphy, APCD Division Manager, 805-403-1096

### Air Quality Advisory for Smoke, Ash, and Soot

Santa Barbara, CA — The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) have upgraded the precautionary advisory issued yesterday to an Air Quality Advisory for Santa Barbara County communities. Residents are advised to minimize time outdoors and avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. These precautions are especially important for people with respiratory and heart conditions.

The air quality conditions have degraded from Monday's levels due to high winds blowing smoke from the fires burning in southern California and continued impacts of ash and soot from the Zaca Fire.

Everyone is advised to be cautious and use common sense to protect your family's health, especially people with heart or lung disease (including asthma), older adults and children should limit time spent outdoors, and limit prolonged or heavy exertion. If you have symptoms of lung or heart disease that may be related to excess smoke or particulate exposure, including repeated coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea or unusual fatigue or lightheadedness, contact your health care provider.

Dr. Elliot Schulman, County Health Officer, said, "People are urged to continue being vigilant while the smoke and ash conditions continue. It is especially important for people with asthma or other respiratory diseases or heart conditions to monitor their health and consult with their health care providers if their symptoms worsen."



Note: The Air Quality Advisory is no longer in effect.

en Español (PDF)

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 24, 2007

#### **Public Health Contacts:**

Michele Mickiewicz, Public Information Officer, 805-451-3497 (cell)

Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Public Health Department Director, County Health Officer, 805-681-5105

#### APCD Contacts:

Bobbie Bratz, Public Information Officer, 805-455-6403 Tom Murphy, APCD Division Manager, 805-403-1096

### Air Quality Conditions Improving

Santa Barbara, CA — The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) have lifted the Air Quality Advisory for Santa Barbara County communities. Residents are advised to pay attention to their local conditions and minimize time outdoors and avoid prolonged or heavy exertion if experiencing smoke or ash in the area. These precautions are especially important for people with respiratory and heart conditions.

The air quality conditions have improved from Tuesday's levels although there is still smoke in the area from the fires burning in southern California and continued resuspension of ash and soot left over from last Saturday's high wind event.

County health and air pollution control officials still advise everyone to be cautious and use common sense to protect their family's health, especially those with heart or lung disease (including asthma). Sensitive individuals should limit time spent outdoors, and limit prolonged or heavy exertion. If you have symptoms of lung or heart disease that may be related to excess smoke or particulate exposure, including repeated coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea or unusual fatigue or lightheadedness, contact your health care provider.

Dr. Elliot Schulman, County Health Officer, said, "While conditions are improving, residents are urged to continue with caution when smoke and ash are present. It is especially important for people with asthma or other respiratory diseases or heart conditions to monitor their health and consult with their health care providers if their symptoms worsen."

#### G.2.5. SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

# **News Release**

10-25-07 For Immediate Release

TO: Local News, Health and Weather sections



Central District Media Contact - Fresno Janelle Schneider (559) 230-6000

South District Media Contact - Bakersfield Brenda Turner (661) 326-6900

# Fires send smoke to Valley

District issues health caution

Southern California fires are sending smoke into the San Joaquin Valley, prompting local airpollution officials to issue a health cautionary statement.

The fires are expected to affect San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Kings, Tulare and the western portion of Kern counties, District forecasters said.

Because of the uncertainty of when these fires could be extinguished, the cautionary statement is in effect for the next several days.

"These fires are producing large amounts of smoke, which is resulting in increasing particulate concentrations," said Gary Arcemont, a meteorologist for the District. "If you smell smoke, take precautions to avoid health impacts."

Exposure to particle pollution can cause serious health problems, aggravate lung disease, cause asthma attacks and acute bronchitis, and increase risk of respiratory infections.

Residents of the eight-county air basin are advised to use caution as conditions warrant. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctors' advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Additionally, older adults and children should avoid prolonged exposure, strenuous activities or heavy exertion, as conditions dictate.

The air-quality forecast for today is in the moderate range in most parts of the Valley, but air quality is deteriorating. Localized air quality could become unhealthy for sensitive groups in areas impacted by smoke, forecasters said. Daily forecasts are available after 4 p.m. at 1-800 SMOG INFO (766-4463) and www.valleyair.org.

The Valley Air District covers eight counties including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the western portion of Kern. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.valleyair.org/">http://www.valleyair.org/</a> or call the nearest District office: Modesto (209) 557-6400, Fresno (559) 230-6000 and Bakersfield (661) 326-6900.

#### G.2.6. SAN DIEGO AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

San Diego County issued numerous safety, health, and smoke advisories during this period. Some of these are included in documentation submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on December 5, 2007, and are included in Appendix I of this report. Additional information can be found at the San Diego County's After Action Report, located on the Office of Emergency Services website at: http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/oes/disaster\_preparedness/oes\_jl\_wildland\_fire.html. The following notice was published on the APCD website on November 14, 2007.

# Notice of Intent to Declare Firestorm 2007 an Exceptional Event

Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 50.14, the San Diego Air Pollution Control District is notifying the public herewith that the Environmental Protection Agency has been advised of our intention to flag those data which we have determined were directly influenced by the Witch Creek, Harris and related wildfires. Such data will be designated as "exceptional event" data. Data to be flagged will include ozone, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> values. By virtue of being flagged, the data will still be available for scientific or public review, but will not be available for purposes of air quality standard attainment designation. A file of supporting documentation will be prepared by District and/or California Air Resources Board personnel, forwarded to EPA, and made available to the public for review and comment through this venue at a later date. Final acceptance/rejection of exceptional event designation will be determined by EPA. Questions related to this issue may be directed to Mike Kaszuba, Manager, Laboratory and Ambient Air Monitoring Section, (858) 586-2763 or mkaszuba@sdapcd.org.

#### G.3. U.S. Federal Government





For Immediate Release Office of the Press Secretary October 23, 2007

#### Statement on Federal Disaster Assistance for California

The President today declared an emergency exists in the State of California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local response efforts in the area struck by wildfires beginning on October 21, 2007, and continuing.

White House News

The President's action authorizes the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to coordinate all disaster relief efforts which have the purpose of alleviating the hardship and suffering caused by the emergency on the local population, and to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

Specifically, FEMA is authorized to identify, mobilize, and provide at its discretion, equipment and resources necessary to alleviate the impacts of the emergency. Emergency protective measures, including direct Federal assistance, will be provided at 75 percent Federal funding.

R. David Paulison, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security, named Michael J. Hall as the Federal Coordinating Officer for Federal recovery operations in the affected area.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FEMA (202) 646-4600.



# **Federal Register Notice**

Billing Code 9110-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[FEMA-1731-DR]

California; Major Disaster and Related Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of California (FEMA-1731-DR), dated October 24, 2007, and related determinations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 24, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peggy Miller, Disaster Assistance Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2705.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, in a letter dated October 24, 2007, the President declared a major disaster under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5206 (the Stafford Act), as follows:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the State of California resulting from wildfires beginning on October 21, 2007, and continuing, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5206 (the Stafford Act). Therefore, I declare that such a major disaster exists in the State of California.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate from funds available for these purposes such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

You are authorized to provide Individual Assistance, assistance for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B) under the Public Assistance program in the designated areas, Hazard Mitigation throughout the State, and any other forms of assistance under the Stafford Act that you deem appropriate subject to completion of Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs),

unless you determine that the incident is of such unusual severity and magnitude that PDAs are not required to determine the need for supplemental Federal assistance pursuant to 44 C.F.R. § 206.33(d).

Consistent with the requirement that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and Other Needs Assistance will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs. Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance also will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs, except for any particular projects that are eligible for a higher Federal cost-sharing percentage under the FEMA Public Assistance Pilot Program instituted pursuant to 6 U.S.C. § 777.

Further, you are authorized to make changes to this declaration to the extent allowable under the Stafford Act.

The time period prescribed for the implementation of section 310(a), Priority to Certain Applications for Public Facility and Public Housing Assistance, 42 U.S.C. 5153, shall be for a period not to exceed six months after the date of this declaration.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice that pursuant to the authority vested in the Administrator, Department of Homeland Security, under Executive Order 12148, as amended, Michael J. Hall, of FEMA is appointed to act as the Federal Coordinating Officer for this declared disaster.

I do hereby determine the following areas of the State of California to have been affected adversely by this declared major disaster:

Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties for Individual Assistance and debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B) under the Public Assistance program.

All counties within the State of California are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund Program; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services Program; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance; 97.048, Individual and Household Housing; 97.049, Individual and Household Disaster Housing Operations; 97.050 Individual and Household Program-Other Needs, 97.036, Public Assistance Grants; 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

R. David Paulison,
Administrator.

Federal Emergency Management Agency.

# FEMA-1731-DR, California Disaster Declaration as of 11/08/2007

